Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 00046 051515Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
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AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MASS, GW, TU

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS OF GERMAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY

1. JANUARY 5 LOCAL PRESS GABE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO A TURKISH-GERMAN MILITARY AGREEMENT SIGNED AUGUST 11, 1975. PRESS REPORTED THAT AGREEMENT CALLS FOR GERMANS TO PROVIDE LEOPARD TANKS, AIR DEFENSE MISSILES, ALPHA JETS, AND OTHER ARMAMENTS. USDAO RELIABLE SOURCE WHO IS IN POSITION TO KNOW GIVES CREDENCE TO PRESS REPORTS. ACCORDING TO USDAO SOURCE, AGREEMENT CALLS FOR THE FRG TO PROVIDE SURPLUS MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO TURKEY, BUT LIST OF SURPLUS ITEMS (SHOWN TO U.S. DEFENSE ATTACHE) CONTAINS INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT, CLOTHING, WING TANKS FOR AIRCRAFT, AND SOME SPARE PARTS BUT NO RPT NO MAJOR ARMAMENTS.

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 00046 051515Z

2. TURKS HAVE ASKED GERMANS FOR ARMAMENTS, BUT

ACCORDING TO SOURCE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THEY CANNOT EXPECT FRG TO PROVIDE SAME MILITARY ASSISTANCE THAT U.S. HAS BEEN PROVIDING. GERMANS TOLD TURKS NOT TO MIX MILITARY AID WITH COMMERCIAL SALES. GERMANS ARE WILPING TO SELL HARDWARE, BUT ONLY FOR HARD CASH. WHENEVER TURKS HAVE RAISED SUBJECT OF MAJOR ARMAMENTS, SUCH AS LEOPARD TANKS, GERMANS REPORTEDLY HAVE TOLD THEM FIRST TO DEVELOP A LONG-RANGE RATIONAL PRGRAM TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF EQUIPMENT.

3. GERMANS AND TURKS EXPECT TO REACH AGREEMENT ON NINTH TRANCHE OF GERMAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY IN MID-FEBRUARY. NINTH TRANCHE (100 MILLION DM), WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE SEVERAL ON-GOING PROGRAMS, WITH ABOUT 80 PERCENT DEVOTED TO PROVIDING NEW EQUIPMENT, 20 PERCENT FOR SURPLUS EQUIPMENT.

4. DAO REPORTING FURTHER DETAILS ON FRG MILITARY ASSISTANCE PLANS FOR TURKEY IN IR 6 898 0007-76. MACOMBER

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